

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of synchronising the phase of a local image synchronisation signal generator of a local video data processor in communication with an asynchronous switched packet network to the phase of a reference image synchronisation signal generator of a reference video data processor also coupled to the network, the local and reference processors having respective clocks, the reference and local image synchronisation signal generators generating periodic image synchronisation signals in synchronism with the reference and local clocks respectively comprises the steps of:

- 5            frequency synchronising the local and reference clocks;
- 10           the reference video data processor sending, via the network, to the local data processor an image timing packet providing reference image synchronisation data indicating the difference in timing, measured with respect to the reference processor's clock, between the time at which the image timing packet is launched onto the network and the time of production of a reference image synchronisation signal; and
- 15           the local processor controlling the timing of the production of the local image synchronisation signal in dependence on the reference image synchronisation data and the time of arrival of the timing packet.

- 20           Figure 1.